

I am writing to comment on the Draft EIS/CCP for the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge:

The Town of Shelby lies along the banks of the Mississippi River just south of the City of La Crosse. We have reached a good commercial, recreational and environmental balance in this area. There is no need for more restrictions. Recreational access to the river and islands is important to the quality of life for our residents. It should not be restricted any more that it currently is.

We enjoy hunting, swimming, boating and simply relaxing on the Mississippi, watching the wildlife, trees and flowers. (We hate the mosquitoes, ticks and deer flies, though. If you can do anything about them, so right ahead!) We accept the fact that commercial use as it currently exists, is necessary, but do not want new dams built so larger barges can go up and down the river.

We believe the Wisconsin DNR and US FWL are doing a good job of protecting the refuge right now. More restrictions will only alienate those of us who have supported you up to now. I am particularly opposed to restrictions and fees that are not enforceable without a significant increase in personnel. Don't make this a job creation project! Spend our tax dollars on actual work on the river.

Thank you for allowing me to comment.

Cathy
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